

From: "Rick Long"
To: Nancy Rumrill/R9/USEPA/US||EPA
Date: 06/09/2009 09:05 PM
Subject: Comments: Lahaina Injection Well

Nancy Rumrill
Environmental Protection Agency
Ground Water Office
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Injection Well Permit for Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii
HIWWRFUICPermit NumberHI50710003

Dear Ms. Rumrill,

I am a resident of the island of Maui where I work as a clinical social worker in healthcare for a State of Hawaii agency.
I speak only for myself, and I do not speak for any organization or governmental agency.

I ask the Environmental Protection Agency to hold the State of Hawaii and the County of Maui accountable to the Clean Water Act.
Human populations have grown too fast for our drinking water systems, and waste treatment systems to keep up.
State and county government have been negligent in being informed of the problem, and negligent in studying solutions to the problem.

The injection well system being used by the County of Maui is contributing to pollution in our near shore (coastal) waters.
These waters are protected by the Clean Water Act with the requirement to be "fishable and swimmable".
I find I am risking my health by swimming in the near shore waters of South and West Maui.
I am getting sick on an increasingly frequent basis, probably as a result of spending time on reef surveys in proximity to the Lahaina injection well.

My friends volunteer as "citizen scientists" and go out daily to sample water quality and hold our local government accountable.
The more data we collect, the more the quality of our data improves, and it seems to point back to the injection wells.

As a healthcare worker, I prided myself on frequent hand washing, and I practice universal precautions at the appropriate times.
Yet, I experience frequent illness that results in time lost from work and social relationships.

Please do not give a “rubber stamp” of approval to the Lahaina Injection Well permit.
Require the County of Maui to look at the independent data being collected by University researchers, and by “citizen scientists”,
And to develop a plan to fix the problem with the injection wells.

Clean water is our right as citizens, and is the infrastructure for a health and prosperous country.

Thank you.

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